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Appl. No. 10/807,050
Amdt. Dated September 7, 2006
Reply to Office Action of July 28, 2006**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An electronic device comprising:
a housing assembly comprising a side wall;
a printed circuit board received in the housing assembly; and
a side key assembly engaged with the side wall, and comprising:

a key portion;

a flexible panel having domes formed thereon and
corresponding to the key portion; and

a flexible printed circuit board having conducting tracks
formed thereon, the flexible printed circuit board being fixed to
and electrically ~~connecting~~ connected with said printed circuit
board by means of hot pressure welding; wherein

the flexible panel is arranged between the key portion and the flexible
printed circuit board, and each dome corresponds to an end of at least one
respective of the conducting tracks; and

when the key portion is depressed, it exerts a force and presses the
flexible panel, in response to this pressure one of the domes on the flexible
panel deforms toward the flexible printed circuit board to actuate the
corresponding at least one conducting track on the flexible printed circuit
board.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The electronic device as described in
claim 1, wherein the side key assembly further comprises an electrical

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panel, which electrically contacts the conducting tracks formed on the flexible printed circuit board.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The electronic device as described in claim 2, wherein the flexible printed circuit board is coupled with the electrical panel by means of hot pressing pressure welding.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The electronic device as described in claim 2, wherein the key portion comprises a body portion, a user interface extending from the body portion, and a contact portion extending from an inner side of the user interface.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The electronic device as described in claim 4, wherein the side wall comprises a plurality of stop walls, and a receiving space formed therebetween.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The electronic device as described in claim 5, wherein each stop wall has an "L" shape, and comprises a long arm and a short arm, the long arm is parallel to the side wall, and the short arm extends from a bottom wall of the housing near the side wall.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The electronic device as described in claim 6, wherein the side wall has a recess which corresponds with the stop wall, and a width of the recess is shorter than a distance between the two short arms.

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Claim 8 (previously presented): The electronic device as described in claim 7, wherein the key portion, the flexible panel and the electrical panel are placed in the receiving space, the side wall blocks the body portion of the key portion, and the user interface extends out from the recess.

Claim 9 (canceled)

Claim 10 (canceled)

Claim 11 (currently amended): A side key assembly for an electronic device, comprising:

a key portion;

a flexible panel having domes formed thereon and corresponding to the key portion; and

a flexible printed circuit board having conducting tracks formed thereon, the flexible printed circuit board configured for being fixed to and electrically connecting with a printed circuit board of the electronic device by means of hot pressure welding; wherein

the flexible panel is arranged between the key portion and the flexible printed circuit board, and each dome corresponds to an end of at least one respective of the conducting tracks; and

when the key portion is depressed, it exerts a force and presses the flexible panel, in response to this pressure one of the domes on the flexible panel deforms toward the flexible printed circuit board to actuate the corresponding at least one conducting track on the flexible printed circuit board.

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Claim 12 (previously presented): The side key assembly as described in claim 11, further comprising a housing assembly, wherein the housing assembly comprises a side wall, and the key portion, the flexible panel and the flexible printed circuit board are cooperatively engaged with the side wall.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The side key assembly as described in claim 12, further comprising an electrical panel, which electrically contacts the conducting tracks formed on the flexible printed circuit board.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The side key assembly as described in claim 13, ~~further comprising said printed circuit board~~, wherein the flexible printed circuit board is coupled with ~~each of the electrical panel and said printed circuit board~~ by means of hot pressing pressure welding.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The side key assembly as described in claim 14, wherein the key portion comprises a body portion, a user interface extending from the body portion, and a contact portion extending from an inner side of the user interface.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The side key assembly as described in claim 15, wherein the side wall comprises a plurality of stop walls, and a receiving space formed therebetween.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The side key assembly as described in claim 16, wherein each stop wall has an "L" shape, and comprises a long

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arm and a short arm, the long arm is parallel to the side wall, and the short arm extends from a bottom wall of the housing near the side wall.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The side key assembly as described in claim 17, wherein the side wall has a recess which corresponds with the stop wall, and a width of the recess is shorter than a distance between the two short arms.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The side key assembly as described in claim 18, wherein the key portion, the flexible panel and the electrical panel are placed in the receiving space, the side wall blocks the body portion of the key portion, and the user interface extends out from the recess.

Claim 20 (canceled)

Claim 21 (canceled)

Claim 22 (currently amended): An electronic device comprising:
a housing assembly comprising a side wall;
a printed circuit board mounted in the housing assembly; and
a side key assembly engaged with the side wall, and comprising:
a key portion;
a flexible panel substantially abutting against the key portion; and
a flexible printed circuit board having conducting tracks formed thereon, the flexible printed circuit board being fixed to and

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electrically connecting with said printed circuit board by means of hot pressure welding; wherein

the flexible panel is arranged between the key portion and the flexible printed circuit board; and

when the key portion is depressed, it exerts a force and presses the flexible panel, in response to this pressure the flexible panel deforms generally toward the flexible printed circuit board to actuate at least one of the conducting tracks on the flexible printed circuit board.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The electronic device as described in claim 22, wherein the flexible panel is metallic, the flexible printed circuit board is further connected to an electrical panel, and the electrical panel is engaged with the flexible panel when the flexible panel deforms generally toward the flexible printed circuit board.